



BUDGET WEEK

Committee on the Budget • Majority Caucus
U.S. House of Representatives
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Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation
scheduled for the House floor

17 July 2006

Week of 17 July 2006

SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) ***Marine Mammal Protection Act Amendments of 2005*** (H.R. 4075). 

This bill amends the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to grant limited authority for marine mammal products to be exported from the United States, while making it unlawful for anyone under United States jurisdiction to release any captive marine mammal unless authorized under the act. The bill also directs the Secretary of Commerce to carry out a to devise fishing gear and methods that reduce the incidental taking of marine mammals. The bill also increases civil fines and criminal penalties, including vessel penalties, for violations of the act. An official cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill could increase revenue and direct spending by negligible amounts, due to small increases in fines and the subsequent spending of the monies collected.

2) ***To Amend the National Trails System Act to Update the Feasibility and Suitability Study Originally Prepared for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and Provide for the Inclusion of New Trail Segments, Land Components, and Campgrounds Associated with That Trail*** (H.R. 3085). 

This bill requires the National Park Service [NPS] to complete, over 6 months, a feasibility study for designating certain routes as components of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. The bill does increase direct spending – spending not subject to appropriations – or reduce revenue.

3) ***Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Massachusetts Act of 2005*** (H.R. 4376). 

This bill directs the National Park Service [NPS] to provide financial assistance to the Springfield Technical Community College [STCC] to renovate and maintain historic buildings in the Springfield Armory National Historic Site. The bill does not increase direct spending or reduce revenue.

4) ***National Capital Transportation Amendments Act of 2005*** (H.R. 3496). 

This bill authorizes the appropriation of \$1.5 billion for grants to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority [WMATA] for capital and preventive maintenance projects. Assuming appropriation of the amount specified in the bill, the Congressional Budget Office [CBO] estimates that implementing H.R. 3496 would cost \$310 million over the 2008-10 period and another \$1.19 billion after 2010. This bill does not increase direct spending or reduce revenue.

5) ***Federal Judiciary Emergency Tolling Act of 2005*** (H.R. 3729). 

This bill provides chief judges of Federal courts the authority to

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PLEASE NOTE: This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to address support or opposition on any other grounds. A green flag indicates no serious budgetary or budget compliance concerns. A yellow flag indicates moderate or potential problems. A red flag indicates serious problems. **Also note:** Floor schedules and legislative details are subject to change after publication.

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives. It has not been approved by the full committee and therefore may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

delay proceedings and deadlines of certain criminal and civil cases, including bankruptcy proceedings, in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency. CBO cannot predict the frequency of such occurrences, but based on information from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the cost of issuing such orders is expected to be negligible and would not increase direct spending or reduce revenue.

6) ***Volunteer Pilot Organization Protection Act of 2006*** (H.R. 1871). 

This bill provides civil immunity to nonprofit volunteer pilot organizations or their referring agencies, staff members, and volunteers for harm that may result from their activities. Such organizations typically provide wilderness rescue or medical evacuation services. This bill has no significant costs to the Federal Government and does not increase direct spending or reduce revenue.

7) ***To Amend Title 4 of the United States Code to Clarify the Treatment of Self-Employment for Purposes of the Limitation on State Taxation of Retirement Income*** (H.R. 4019). 

This bill amends current law (Public Law 104-95) to prohibit State taxation of certain retirement income of former residents. These provisions could result in some individuals having lower itemized deductions of State income taxes on their Federal income tax returns, and therefore higher Federal income taxes. Assuming that, in the absence of this legislation, States would continue to tax certain retirement income of former residents, CBO estimates that enacting this bill would result in an increase in Federal income taxes of less than \$500,000 per year, totaling about \$1 million over the 2007-16 period. This bill has no significant impact on Federal spending.

8) ***Expressing the Sense of the Congress that Continuation of the Welfare Reforms Provided for in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 Should Remain a Priority*** (H.Con.Res. 438). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

9) ***Alternative Pluripotent Stem Cell Therapies Enhancement Act*** (S. 2754). 

This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop techniques for the isolation, derivation, production, or testing of stem cells that are capable of producing all or almost all of the cell types of the developing body, and that may result in improved understanding of treatments for diseases and other adverse health conditions, but are not derived from a human embryo. An official cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenue.

10) ***Fetus Farming Prohibition Act of 2006*** (S. 3504). 

This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to prohibit any person or entity involved in interstate commerce from: 1) soliciting or knowingly acquiring, receiving, or accepting a donation of human fetal tissue knowing that a human pregnancy was deliberately initiated to provide such tissue; or 2) knowingly acquiring, receiving, or accepting tissue or cells obtained from a human embryo or fetus that was gestated in the uterus of a nonhuman animal. The bill imposes fines and/or imprisonment for violations. An official cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill could lead to a small increase in revenue and direct spending through the collection and subsequent expenditure of new fines.

11) ***Supporting the Goals and Ideals of School Bus Safety Week*** (H.Res. 498). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

12) ***To Designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service Located at 100 Pitcher Street in Utica, New York, as the "Captain George A. Wood Post Office Building"*** (H.R. 4962). 

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

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13) ***Supporting the Goals and Ideals of a Salvadoran-American Day (El Dia del Salvadoreno) in Recognition of all Salvadoran-Americans for Their Hard Work, Dedication, and Contribution to the Stability and Well-Being of the United States*** (H.Res. 721).

This resolution has no budget implications.

14) ***Congratulating Italy on Winning the 2006 Federation Internationale de Football Association [FIFA] World Cup*** (H.Res. 908). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

15) ***Congratulating Kazakhstan on the 15th Anniversary of the Closure of the World's Second Largest Nuclear Test Site in the Semipalatinsk Region of Kazakhstan and for its Efforts on the Nonproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction*** (H.Res. 905). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

16) ***Commending and Supporting Radio Al Mahaba, Iraq's First and Only Radio Station for Women*** (H.Res. 784). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

17) ***To Provide for the Conveyance of the Reversionary Interest of the United States in Certain Lands to the Clint Independent School District, El Paso County, Texas*** (H.R. 860). 

This bill provides for the conveyance of the reversionary interest of the United States in certain lands to the Clint Independent School District, El Paso County, TX, with a requirement that the school district use any proceeds received from the disposal of such land for public educational purposes. Relinquishing the Federal Government's interest in this land would result in forgone receipts, but CBO estimates that enacting the bill would not have a significant budgetary impact.

18) ***Congratulating Israel's Magen David Adom Society for Achieving Full Membership in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and for Other Purposes*** (H.Con.Res. 435). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

19) ***To Preserve the Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial in San Diego, California, by Providing for the Immediate Acquisition of the Memorial by the United States*** (H.R.5683).

CBO has not prepared an official cost estimate for this measure; therefore, its effect on the Federal budget is unknown.

[This is a first installment of this week's *Budget Week*. Additional legislation will be addressed in a forthcoming *Budget Week Update*.]